

Message Text

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FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM BROWN (S/PRS) -- PARIS HOLD FOR S/S

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TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A. KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS ARTICLES OF INTEREST

NO. 13

1. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE
DATELINED CAIRO, SEPTEMBER 5, NO BYLINE, ENTITLED "SINAI
PACT, A YEAR LATER, STILL PREVENTS ARAB UNITY".

"THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE INTERIM AGREE-
MENT BY EGYPT AND ISRAEL TO DISENGAGE FORCES IN SINAI HAS
PASSED WITHOUT MENTION IN THE EGYPTIAN PRESS.

THE ACCORD THAT SO DOMINATED THE NEWS HERE AND AROUND THE
WORLD A YEAR AGO WAS ALSO IGNORED IN MOST CAFES AND BARS,
IN THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY AND EVEN IN THE SPEECHES
OF POLITICIANS RUNNING FOR OFFICE IN HOTLY CONTESTED
ELECTIONS.

THE TOP PEOPLE IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHO WERE INVOLVED
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CLOSELY IN THE EGYPTIAN END OF HENRY A. KISSINGER'S SHUTTLE
WERE NOT AVAILABLE TO TALK TO REPORTERS ABOUT IT. RATHER,
THEY WERE BUSY WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN ARAB LEAGUE MEETING
TO DISCUSS AN ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE ON THE CIVIL WAR IN

LEBANON, A SUMMIT CONFERENCE THAT HAD BEEN OUT OF THE QUESTION UNTIL NOW AND MAY STILL BE, DUE IN PART TO THE SINAI AGREEMENT. THE CONFERENCE WAS SET YESTERDAY FOR THE THIRD WEEK OF OCTOBER, IN CAIRO.

EGYPTIANS DO NOT LIKE TO TALK ABOUT THE SINAI AGREEMENT, AND DIPLOMATS CONSIDER IT UNDIPLOMATIC TO BRING UP THE SUBJECT. SYRIA, EGYPT'S MAIN RIVAL FOR ARAB LEADERSHIP, BRINGS IT UP REGULARLY IN SCATHING ATTACKS THAT STARTED A FEW DAYS AFTER THE AGREEMENT WAS INITIALED IN EGYPT AND ISRAEL LAST SEPTEMBER 1.

"MOST OF THEM," A WESTERN DIPLOMAT SAID, REFERRING TO THE EGYPTIANS, "FEEL IT HASN'T GOTTEN EGYPT OR THE ARAB WORLD VERY FAR. THEY CERTAINLY DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE MET BY SUCH STRIDENT CRITICISM AND BY SUCH DEAFENING SILENCE FROM THEIR FRIENDS."...

CONVERSATIONS WITH EGYPTIANS AND EASTERN DIPLOMATS INDICATE A SENSE OF DISAPPOINTMENT IN EGYPT OVER A LACK OF RESULTS FROM THE SINAI AGREEMENT. SPECIFICALLY, EGYPT HAD HOPED THAT THE ACCORD WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A SIMILAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. IT WAS APPARENT, SHORTLY AFTER THE SINAI PACT WAS SIGNED, THAT SUCH A FURTHER AGREEMENT WAS IMPOSSIBLE AT THE TIME.

"THERE IS TREMENDOUS DISAPPOINTMENT," A DIPLOMAT SAID, "THAT THE GREAT MIRACLE WORKER"--MR. KISSINGER--"HAS NOT PULLED ANOTHER RABBIT OUT OF HIS HAT."

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN CAIRO OFFER TWO REASONS FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS AFTER THE SINAI PACT WAS SEALED: FIRST, THE FACT THAT THE AGREEMENT WAS NOT SIGNED IN MARCH, AS ORIGINALLY INTENDED, PROVIDED LESS TIME FOR MANUEVERING BEFORE THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, WHICH EVERYONE ACKNOWLEDGES HAS CAUSED A HIATUS IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

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TIATING PROCESS.

SECOND, THE WAR IN LEBANON HAD BEGUN, AND PROCEEDED TO GET WORSE, AFTER THE SIGNING. MOST ARABS AND DIPLOMATS BELIEVE THERE CAN BE NO PROGRESS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAEL UNTIL AFTER THE LEBANESE ISSUES ARE RESOLVED.

DESPITE THE SENSE OF EMBARRASSMENT AND DISAPPOINTMENT INTERNATIONALLY, DIPLOMATS SAY THERE IS NO FEELING IN CAIRO THAT THE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE RENOUNCED, AS SYRIA CONTINUES TO SUGGEST. IT DID, THEY SAY, ACCOMPLISH ITS

PRIMARY GOAL--TO ALLOW EGYPT TO DIVERT ITS ATTENTION TO

ITS OVERWEENING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

AND IT GAVE EGYPT A TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC BOOST--THE RETURN OF THE ABU RUDEIS OILFIELDS. FOR THE FIRST TIME, EGYPT EXPECTS THIS YEAR TO BE A NET EXPORTER OF OIL AND BY 1980 IT HOPES TO EARN \$1 BILLION A YEAR FROM OIL SALES. EGYPT AND ITS PEOPLE SEEM COMPLETELY PREOCCUPIED WITH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, AS MUCH OR MORE OF A REASON THAT THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINAI AGREEMENT IS A NON-TOPIC HERE."

2. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FOR NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE DATED BEIRUT, SEPTEMBER 5, NO BYLINE, ENTITLED "WARRING FACTIONS MEET IN LEBANON".

"THE HEAD OF THE SECURITY WING OF AL FATAH, THE MAIN PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA ORGANIZATION, HAS BEGUN MEETING WITH CHRISTIAN AND RIGHTIST LEADERS IN AN EFFORT TO END THE FIGHTING IN LEBANON.

ABU HASSAN SALAMAH, A CLOSE AIDE TO YASIR ARAFAT, THE HEAD OF AL FATAH AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, MET SEPARATELY YESTERDAY WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT ELIAS SARKIS, PIERRE GEMAYEL, THE LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN PHALANGIST PARTY, AND PATRIARCH ANTONIUS KHOREISH, THE SPIRITUAL LEADER OF LEBANON'S MARONITE CHRISTIANS.

HE SAID AFTER THE MEETINGS THAT "POSITIVE STEPS" SHOULD
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BE EXPECTED THIS WEEK TOWARD ENDING THE FIGHTING.

THE CONTACTS PROGRESSED DESPITE A NOTICEABLE STEP-UP IN THE CLASHES DURING THE PAST TWO DAYS...

THE LEADING DAILY AN-NAHAR REPORTED TODAY THAT MR. SARKIS TOLD MR. ABU HASSAN THAT THE GUERRILLA MOVEMENT MUST AVOID A LARGE-SCALE BATTLE IN THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS.

THE NEWSPAPER QUOTED MR. GEMAYAL AS SAYING AT THE MEETING THAT A PALESTINIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM SANIN, AIN TURAH AND AL-METEIN 25 MILES EAST OF HERE "IS THE KEY TO PEACE IN LEBANON".

THE PHALANGIST LEADER WAS QUOTED AS HAVING PROMISED THAT IF THE PALESTINIANS WITHDREW, "THEY WILL OBTAIN FROM US GUARANTEES FOR THEIR SAFETY IN LEBANON AND ASSURANCES FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE STRUGGLE FOR THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE."

MR. GEMAYEL, THE NEWSPAPER WENT ON, URGED THE GUERRILLAS TO MAKE A TOKEN WITHDRAWAL RIGHT AWAY BY PULLING OUT FROM

THE "FRENCH FORTRESS" ON MOUNT SANIN, SOME 4,000 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL. THE FRENCH MANDATE AUTHORITIES BUILT THE FORTRESS MANY YEARS AGO, FROM WHERE THEY COULD CONTROL THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS. THE FRENCH MANDATE ENDED IN 1943 WHEN LEBANON BECAME INDEPENDENT.

MR. ABU HASSAN PROMISED TO CONVEY THE REQUEST TO MR. ARAFAT, AN-NAHAR SAID.

THE DAILY AL-MOHARRER, WHICH HAS PALESTINIAN CONNECTIONS, REPORTED TODAY THAT A DELEGATION FROM THE PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATION WAS SHCEDULED TO GO TO DAMASCUS TUESDAY FOR TALKS WITH SYRIAN LEADERS."

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER SIGNED BY KONSTANTIN YURYEV, NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY, MOSCOW, APPEARING WASHINGTON POST, SEPTEMBER 6:

"ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE WRITTEN BY LEONARD MARKS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PUBLISHED IN THE WASHINGTON POST ON AUGUST 1, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT AFTER THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE THE SOVIET UNION TOOK PRACTICALLY NO STEPS TO EXPAND CULTURAL-HUMANITARIAN CONTACTS WITH THE WEST.

MARKS DOES ADMIT THAT SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE BY THE SOVIET UNION IN THIS RESPECT: RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN LOOSENED FOR FOREIGN JOURNALISTS, WHO HAVE NOW THE SAME RIGHTS AS DIPLOMATS; MORE WESTERN NEWSPAPERS HAVE APPEARED ON THE NEWSSTANDS; FOREIGN JOURNALISTS ALSO HAVE MORE POSSIBILITIES TO CONTACT SOVIET MINISTRIES AND OFFICES; AND NEW LAWS MAKE IT EASIER FOR CITIZENS TO GO ABROAD FOR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL REASONS.

DURING THE YEAR SINCE THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE, THE SOVIET UNION HAS SIGNED AGREEMENTS ON TOURISM AND ON CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES WITH FRANCE, PORTUGAL, ITALY, TURKEY AND OTHER COUNTRIES. ARE THESE NOT EXAMPLES OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI UNDERSTANDINGS?

ACCORDING TO THE FINAL ACT, COOPERATION AMONG STATES, INCLUDING IN THE CULTURAL-HUMANITARIAN FIELD, IS BASED ON SUCH FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AS EQUALITY, RECIPROCITY AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS. WHAT RECIPROCITY? CONSIDERABLY FEWER BOOKS BY SOVIET AUTHORS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES THAN

BOOKS BY AMERICAN AUTHORS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE SOVIET UNION. IN OUR COUNTRY NEARLY 300 BOOKS BY AMERICAN AUTHORS ARE ANNUALLY TRANSLATED INTO THE LANGUAGES OF

THE PEOPLES OF THE USSR. THE WESTERN COUNTRIES SHOW ONLY A FRACTION OF THE SOVIET FILMS THAT WE SHOW OF WESTERN FILMS, AND ONE-THIRD THE NUMBER OF SOVIET TELEVISION PROGRAMS. THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE STUDYING THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE IS HUNDREDS OR EVEN THOUSANDS OF TIMES LESS THAN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE STUDYING ENGLISH IN THE SOVIET UNION.

THE MYTH THAT A SOCIALIST SOCIETY IS A "CLOSED SOCIETY" AND THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES "FEAR" COMMUNICATIONS WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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OTHER PEOPLES HAS BEEN PERSISTENTLY REITERATED OF LATE. THERE IS NO GETTING AWAY FROM THE FACTS, HOWEVER: IN 1975 ALONE, MORE THAN 58 MILLION GUESTS FROM ABROAD VISITED THE COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE COUNTRIES; IN TURN, 35 MILLION CITIZENS OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY COUNTRIES WENT ABROAD. SOCIALIST COUNTRIES DO NOT DENY VISAS TO FOREIGN TRADE UNION DELEGATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, AS THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN DOING FOR MANY YEARS.

THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT DENY ENTRY VISAS ON THE GROUNDS OF THE PARTY AFFILIATION OF FOREIGN CITIZENS, AS WAS THE CASE IN THE U.S., FOR INSTANCE, WITH ITALIAN COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WERE DENIED VISAS.

WE MUST AGREE, HOWEVER, WITH THE MAIN POINT IN MR. MARKS' ARTICLE THAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD SHOW A SERIOUS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE HELSINKI UNDERSTANDINGS, SHOULD CONSIDER THIS A VERY IMPORTANT MATTER, AND THAT THE USA, TOO, SHOULD HAVE A POSITIVE PROGRAM SUPPORTED BY CONCRETE ACTIONS. ONLY A POSITIVE PROGRAM FOR IMPLEMENTING THE UNDERSTANDINGS OF THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE AND CONCRETE ACTIONS IN THIS DIRECTION, NOT BIASED REASONING AND SUCH EXPRESSIONS AS "TO DEMAND" OR "TO CHALLENGE" CAN SERVE BROADER CULTURAL CONTACTS AND BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMONG NATIONS. ROBINSON

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